

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, December 14, 2015**

**The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, December 14, 2015, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairman Bento called the meeting to order at approximately 7:02 PM.**

**Present: John Bento, Chairman; Paul Silva, Vice-Chairman; Karen Lynch, Secretary; Marjorie McBride, Treasurer; Diana Campbell, William O'Dell, Erin Schofield, John Saviano and Lynn Wainwright; Mario J. Andrade, Superintendent; Diane Sanna, Assistant Superintendent; Leslie Anderson, Director of Pupil Services; Pauline Silva, Director of Administration and Finance, and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor**

**Guests: Kyle Connors, Hague, Sahady & Co., CPA's, P.C.**

**OPENING BUSINESS**

**All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.**

**ACCOLADES:**

**The District Holiday Greeting Card, for the past several years, has**

been designed by a student. This year, Art Teacher, Lynne Ramos, was asked to have students at Colt Andrews School create a design for consideration. Several students submitted their drawings – they were all very special, but only one could be chosen for the card. A gift certificate to Don's Art Shop was presented to fifth grader, Madeleine Duchesne, the artist whose drawing was used on the 2015 Holiday Card.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Bento stated that an Executive Session would not be necessary for Personnel.

An Executive Session will be held at the end of the meeting regarding the Town of Warren Litigation as shown on the agenda.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**

### **CONSENT AGENDA #S2015-67**

All items listed with an asterisk on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the School Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member requests, in which event the items will be withdrawn from the general order of business and considered in the normal sequence of the agenda. Chairman Bento stated that

**item A1 will be pulled from the Consent Agenda for a separate vote.**

**MOTION: Mr. Silva made a motion to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Mr. Silva made a motion to seal the November 23, 2015 executive session minutes; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Mr. Silva made a motion to approve item A1 of the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mrs. McBride.**

**DISCUSSION: Mrs. Campbell stated, for the record, that she would be recusing herself from the vote**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Mrs. Campbell returned to the meeting.**

## **S2015-73 A-D: CONSENT AGENDA - PERSONNEL**

**A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicant to the position of Secretary/ Receptionist as listed below:**

# **1. Terri Anne Moreira Secretary/Receptionist**

**Effective: Immediately**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Transfer – T. Jenkins)**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**B. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2015-16 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):**

## **WINTER COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH**

### **Sport Position Coach**

- 1. Basketball (Boys) Asst. Coach Henry Cabral**
- 2. Basketball (Boys) Asst. Coach Ralph Guerriero**
- 3. Gymnastics (Girls) Asst. Coach Robert Fudge \***

## **SPRING COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH**

### **Sport Position Coach**

- 4. Volleyball (Boys) Asst. Coach Benjamin Kaeterle \***

## **CLUB COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH**

### **Sport Position Coach**

**5. Cheerleading (Competition) Asst. Coach Kristin Carbone**

**6. Cheerleading (Competition) Volunteer Coach Amanda Andrews \***

**\* Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**C. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following application for a certified substitute pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:**

### **CERTIFIED**

#### **Name Area/Level**

**1. Marguerite A. Fitzgerald General Subject Matter**

**D. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Jennifer L. Carlson from the position of Middle School Nurse as listed below:**

**1. Jennifer L. Carlson School Nurse – Kickemuit Middle**

**Effective: January 15, 2016**

**Reason: Personal**

**Mrs. McBride requested that recommendation #S2015-77, Acceptance of FY15 Audit, be moved to the top of the recommendations list in the order of business to accommodate Mr. Connors, CPA.**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**

### **RECOMMENDATION #S2015-77**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, accept the FY15 Audit Report.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to accept the FY15 Audit Report, seconded by Mr. O'Dell.**

**DISCUSSION: Mrs. Silva, Director of Administration & Finance, introduced Mr. Kyle Connors, Hague, Sahady & Co., CPA's, P.C.**

**Mr. Connors thanked the School Committee for having him there.**

**Mr. Connors commented that Mrs. Silva had everything prepared and the audit went smoothly. He added that the audit was "clean".**

**Mr. Connors stated that there were no significant changes in accounting practices for the school district.**

**He stated that the only big change which impacted the audit was related to GASB 67 and GASB 68 regarding the reporting of pensions and how those liabilities are now recorded.**

**Mr. Connors explained details of the FY15 audit report.**

**Questions were asked and answered throughout the presentation.**

**Mrs. Silva thanked Mr. Connors and his staff for bringing “new eyes” to the audit process. She commented that this is the 11th straight year that the Bristol Warren Regional School District has had no audit findings.**

**Mrs. Silva stated that the FY15 Audit Report will be posted on the District website.**

**Mrs. Campbell commended Mrs. Silva for her great work with the finances of the Bristol Warren Regional School District adding that Mrs. Silva is a point of pride for the District.**

**Mrs. McBride commented that she hopes the State recognizes how well the Bristol Warren Regional School District manages their finances.**

**Chairman Bento thanked Mr. Connors and Mrs. Silva for their roles in**

**the audit process and commended a job well done.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**RECOMMENDATION #S2015-74**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the second reading of the Dual and Concurrent Enrollment Policy.**

**MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the second reading of the Dual and Concurrent Enrollment Policy; seconded by Mrs. McBride.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**RECOMMENDATION #S2015-75**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the first reading of the School Committee Officers Duties Policy (BCB).**

**MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the first reading of the School Committee Officers Duties Policy (BCB); seconded by Mrs. Wainwright.**



**DISCUSSION: Mr. O'Dell stated, for the record, that he will not be voting in favor of the proposed changes to the School Committee Officers Duties Policy citing three reasons for dissenting.**

**1. The protection of one's authority and rights both as an individual School Committee member and for the School Committee as a whole.**

**Mr. O'Dell disagrees with RI General Law 16-2-9's hourly requirement for School Committee member professional development. He stated that he is protecting his authority and right concerning how he educates himself.**

**2. Enforceability of the policy.**

**3. Responsibility to constituents alone.**

**Mr. O'Dell closed by stating that he disagrees with one body of elected officials dictating to another body of elected officials through mandates. Mr. O'Dell stated that he will conduct himself as he deems necessary in answer to his constituents.**

**Mrs. Wainwright responded that the proposed changes to the School Committee Officers Duties Policy uses language that will make known to the constituents those School Committee members who are following the law as outlined in RI General Law 16-2-9.**

**Mrs. McBride stated that she agrees with Mr. O'Dell "110%" and will not be voting for the proposed changes to the School Committee Officers Duties Policy. Mrs. McBride clarified that she does not have a problem with the rest of the policy.**

**Mrs. Schofield stated that there is already a School Committee policy in place, School Committee Powers and Duties, BBA, which states that the School Committee must undertake professional development annually. Mrs. Schofield stated that the updates to the School Committee Officers Duties Policy would assign the responsibility of ensuring that the School Committee fulfills the Professional Development requirement to the School Committee Chair.**

**The motion failed to pass with a 3-5 vote; Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. McBride, Mr. O'Dell and Mr. Silva dissenting.**

#### **RECOMMENDATION #S2015-76**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve the 2015-2016 Town of Warren Snow & Sand Removal Bid.**

**MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the 2015-2016 Town of Warren Snow & Sand Removal Bid; seconded by Mr. Silva.**

**DISCUSSION: Mrs. McBride explained that the Snow & Sand Removal**

**bid is the same as the last two years, but will now be locked in for the next three years. Mrs. McBride stated that a local company, MJ Construction, was the only company to submit a bid.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **RECOMMENDATION #S2015-78**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve and submit a letter to the Fair Funding Formula Study Committee.**

**MOTION: Mr. Silva made a motion to approve and submit a letter to the Fair Funding Formula Study Committee; Mrs. McBride seconded.**

**DISCUSSION: A question was raised about why efficiencies of shared services were not mentioned in the letter to the Fair Funding Formula Study Committee. Dr. Andrade responded that he recently met with local and state representatives where all agreed that the “argument” for shared services efficiencies would best be directed to the Governor rather than the Fair Funding Formula Study Committee. A meeting with the Governor has been requested.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **RECOMMENDATION #S2015-79**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the**

**Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve the Shared Printer RFP.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the Shared Printer RFP; seconded by Mr. Silva.**

**DISCUSSION: Mrs. McBride stated that the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee recommends awarding the Shared Printer RFP to Ricoh.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Subcommittee/School Committee Reports & Initiatives**

##### **Budget/Facilities Subcommittee**

**Mrs. McBride stated that the next Budget/Facilities Subcommittee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2015.**

**The bid opening for the MHHS field project will be December 22, 2015 at 1 p.m. at the Oliver Administration Building.**

##### **Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee**

**Mrs. Schofield stated that the next Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee meeting will be held on Monday, January 4th. The Executive Sessions Policy and the Agenda Preparation Policy will be reviewed to ensure compliance with the Open Meetings Act.**

## **Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee**

**Mr. Silva stated that the Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee approved recommending to the full School Committee a new Superintendent's Evaluation Tool. Mr. Silva stated that the new tool is a better representation of what the Superintendent does. He added that the Superintendent's Evaluation Tool will be an exhibit to a current policy and as such, does not need to go through the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee.**

## **Wellness Subcommittee**

**Mrs. Wainwright reported that Mrs. Silva, Director of Administration and Finance, is heading up food advisory meetings with administrators, parents and Chartwell's administration to make sure the District is providing the best services to each of the schools.**

**The next Wellness Subcommittee meeting will be held tomorrow at 4 p.m. at the Oliver Administration Building.**

**Mrs. Wainwright congratulated Joanne Waite, a Rockwell parent who heads up morning fitness, for receiving a \$450 grant to develop a running club at Rockwell.**

## **Chairperson's Initiatives**

### **Shout Outs:**

**Mrs. Lynch shared information about the MHHS Alumni Panel**

**Presentation to 12th Graders which will be held from 9-11 a.m. on Tuesday, December 22nd.**

**Mr. Silva stated that last weekend the MHHS Robotic teams competed in the Rhode Island State Qualifier where two of the four teams qualified for the State Championship.**

**Mr. Silva shared information about a Robotics Fundraiser that will be held in February to help pay for the competitions.**

**Mr. Silva commended MHHS senior, Alex Brassard, for earning #1 state soprano at the Rhode Island Educators All State Choral Concert.**

**Mr. Bento mentioned a letter received from a Colt Andrews parent which addressed the entire School Committee thanking the Committee for their support.**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION – 7:55 PM**

**Pursuant to Open Meetings Laws 42-46-5 (a)(2)an Executive Session will be held to discuss the following:**

**1. Legal Advice re: Town of Warren Litigation**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m.; seconded by Mr. O'Dell. The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:05 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT – 8:07 PM**

**MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Campbell motioned to adjourn the Open Session at 8:07 PM; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Karen A. Lynch, Secretary**

**/kd**